

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-10 AID-05 ACDA-05 OMB-01 /089 W

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R 151216Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9679

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 16965

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SEATO

SUBJ: DISSOLUTION OF SEATO

REF: CANBERRA 5459

1. AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR CALLED ON ME TODAY ON
ON INSTRUCTIONS TO REPORT ON THE DECISIONS REGARDING THE
FUTURE OF SEATO WHICH HAD BEEN TAKEN IN THE COURSE OF
FOREIGN MINISTER CHATCHAI'S VISIT TO AUSTRALIA. THE
AMBASSADOR STATED THAT FONMIN CHATCHAI HAD APPARENTLY
CHANGED HIS MIND DURING THE VISIT AND HAD REACHED
AGREEMENT WITH THE AUSTRALIANS THAT THE SEATO SECRETARY
GENERAL SHOULD BE INSTRUCTED TO COME UP WITH A PLAN
FOR DISSOLVING THE SEATO STRUCTURE WHICH COULD BE CON-
SIDERED AT THE MINISTERIAL MEETING IN NEW YORK IN
SEPTEMBER.

2. THE AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR SAID THAT HE WOULD MAKE
A PROPOSAL ALONG THE FOREGOING LINES AT THE SEATO
COUNCIL REPS MEETING WHICH IS TO TAKE PLACE IN BANGKOK
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AUGUST 20. HE SAID HE RECOGNIZED THAT ALTHOUGH

CHATCHAI HAD BEEN VERY EMPHATIC ON THIS SUBJECT IN CANBERRA, THE POSSIBILITY EXISTED THAT HE WAS TALKING OFF THE CUFF AND THAT HIS POSITION DID NOT TRULY REPRESENT THAT OF THE THAI GOVERNMENT. IT WAS CANBERRA'S VIEW HOWEVER THAT ACTION COULD BE TAKEN PROMPTLY WITH REGARD TO THE FUTURE OF SEATO AND THAT THERE WAS SUFFICIENT TIME BETWEEN NOW AND THE MINISTERIAL MEETING FOR THE SECRETARY GENERAL TO COME UP WITH A PHASED PLAN WHICH COULD BE CONSIDERED BY THE FOREIGN MINISTER.

3. THE AUSTRALIANS ARE CLEARLY PRESSING HARD TO DISSOLVE SEATO SWIFTLY BUT THE RTG POSITION AT AUGUST 20 COUNCIL REPS MEETING MAY BE SOMEWHAT MODIFIED FROM CHATCHAI'S AGREEMENT WITH WILLISEE IN CANBERRA. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY COMMENTS THE DEPARTMENT MAY WISH US TO MAKE REGARDING THE PROPOSED AUSTRALIAN INITIATIVE AT COUNCIL REPS MEETING AUGUST 20. UNLESS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED WE WILL STATE THAT THE PROPOSAL IS UNDER CONSIDERATION IN WASHINGTON.
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, RESOLUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BANGKO16965
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750282-1056
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750846/aaaaboek.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 CANBERRA 5459
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <12 NOV 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DISSOLUTION OF SEATO
TAGS: PORG, AS, US, TH, SEATO, (CHATCHAI CHUNHAWAN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006